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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/516,195	03/01/2000	Allen W Stichter	STICHTER 3	3419

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EXAMINER

GHULAMALI, QUTBUDDIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2631	5

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/516,195 Examiner Qutub Ghulamali	STICHTER, ALLEN W Art Unit 2631

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2000.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20, 25-29 and 35-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 21-24, 30-34 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2000 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some \* c) None of:
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

#### Attachment(s)

- |                                                                                                            |                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>2</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

In the present instance the Abstract exceeds the allowable limit of 150 words.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1, 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which, was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claims 1 and 43, line 5, recites receiving a second message from the clock, but fails to identify if master or slave.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) The invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-7, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18-20, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 37, 46, 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Read et al (US Patent No. 6,236,623). Read et al teaches (fig. 2) communications between the master device 12 (clock) and a slave control device 14 (clock), the master clock sends first message of first transit time T1 to slave clock, similarly a second transit time T2 from slave to master clock is sent, the total loop communication delay is monitored in reference to the master clock circuitry 18 and/or the master time 22 and measured (calculate), the loop communication delay is divided by 2 to compute an average delay, and applying the average delay to compensate for the known time setting errors for each of the slave clocks (col. 5, lines 37-67 and col. 6, lines 20-55), wherein the controller is a programmed processor (microcomputer) (col. 1, lines 55-60).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 35, 36, 37-39, 40-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Read et al (US Patent No. 6,236,623) in view of Lundh et al (US Patent 6,373,834).

As shown in figures 1, 6A-C, 11A-C, 12 and 13, Read et al teaches clock synchronization in a telecommunication network 20 between a master timing (clock) unit and a slave timing (clock) unit located at e.g., base station 22 of the network, performing synchronization analysis to determine a synchronization adjustment value for the slave timing unit, with the master timing unit located in a control node such as a RNC (col. 4, lines 34-36), determines whether the addressed slave timing unit respond within a predetermined time-out window, response messages with the best (lowest) round-trip delay time one having median or average values chosen for the subsequent computations (col. 13, lines 27-29 and col. 14, lines 34-42). See also column 3, lines 15- 67 and column 4, lines 1-14, col. 8, lines 13-18). Read et al fails to teach employing the CDMA telecommunications system within the network. Lundh et al, however, teaches employing the CDMA telecommunications network system for facilitating an accurate and reliable technique for synchronization timing units, such as timing units at base stations. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Read et al network by employing the CDMA telecommunications within the network so as to facilitate reliable synchronization within the telecommunications network as taught by Lundh et al.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

8. Claims 21-24, 30-34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Han et al (US Patent 5,930,722), Griffith et al (US Patent 5,388,102), Dumont et al (US Patent 6,154,642) reference information pertinent to accurate synchronization of clocks in telecommunication environment.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Qutub Ghulamali whose telephone number is (703) 305-7868. The examiner can normally be reached during normal business days Monday-Friday from 8:00AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 703 305-4378. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 305-3988 for regular communications and 703 305-3988 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 305-4750.

QG.

May 15, 2003



DON N. VO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER